

CLASSIFICATION

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INFORMATION REPORT

25X1

COUNTRY

Germany (Russian Zone)

SUBJECT

Present Status of the Carl Zeiss-Werke

PLACE
ACQUIRED

25X1

DATE

25X1

DATE DIST. 10 March 1948

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USE OF TRAINED INTELLIGENCE ANALYSTS

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- At the present time, the Zeiss-Werke, Jena, employ 4,500 men; it is planned, however, to increase the number by the end of 1948 to 6,500 men. It is thought that the permanent number of workers and staff personnel will be around 8,000 and it is hoped that this goal will be reached by the end of 1949. These figures can be reached, however, only if the necessary raw materials are available and if additional machines can be secured in time to replace the equipment which was removed by the Russians.

25X1 [] Comment: For some unknown reason the [] journalists who
25X1 visited the Zeiss-Werke early in January were told that the factory
now employs 6,200 to 6,500 men.)

- In addition to its peace-time production of camera lenses, eye-glasses, microscopes, and medical and scientific instruments, the Zeiss plant in Jena must also fill reparations orders for the Soviet Army for telescopic sights (Zielfernrohr) and sight mounts for light guns and mortars, similar to those made during the war for the German Army.
- As to photographic equipment, the Jena plant manufactures at the present time mainly accessory equipment for foreign factories, while the Zeiss-Werke in Saalfeld on the Saale are getting ready for the production of complete cameras. The Saalfeld plant started in 1946 to make Contax cameras, which had been produced in the Zeiss-Ikon factory in Dresden until its dismantlement by the Russians in 1945. The Saalfeld plant had just finished its first few hundred camera boxes and was ready for production in series when the plant was seized by the Russians, who proceeded to dismantle it and to ship the machines and equipment to Russia. During 1948, the Saalfeld factory will produce exclusively the Ikona camera. All precision instruments will be made in the "sidewerk" of the Jena plant.
- The Zeiss-Werke, which were originally set up as an endowment, are still functioning as such, but were forced to borrow large sums from the government of the State of Thuringia in order to be able to pay.

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expenses and to pay in full the large crew of workers during the two years required for clearing work and for getting the plant back into working order. Today, the Zeiss-Werke are indebted to the State of Thuringia for several million marks. Leading staff members fear that the Russians, taking advantage of this indebtedness, will induce the Ministry of Economics to exercise an undue influence upon the policy of the Zeiss-Werke.

5. Most of the skilled workers from the Zeiss factory in Jena who were deported in 1946 are now working in Krasnogorsk near Moscow, where it is reported precision instruments and field glasses are being made. Most of the skilled workers continue to do the same kind of work as in Jena. Letters received from these men intimate that several hundred additional specialists from the Jena plant are expected to come to Krasnogorsk in the near future.

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